TO OUR LAW-MAKERS. The Married-Woman's Act-A Protest from

a Judge of the Old School [For the Dispatch.] In the Law Journal of November. 1885, I see for the first time the statute proposed by the revisers, called the married-woman's act, and comment is invited, so that the act may be made as perfect as practicable. I have long considered the present statute as to separate estates of married women as the most pernicious and demeralizing provision; ineffectual in protection of the married woman and destructive of that holy and sacred tie intended by the law of God and the common law to be the basis of domestic felicity and social good. This manship violates the law of God and humanity, in that it separates in all material interests man and wife, whom God hath joined together, and substitutes the venal and grovelling motive of property for that only safe, pure, and rational tie which should or can bind in this heaven-ordained relation. It shakes and destroys the funda-mental and only safe basis of human society. I protest against such a law as dangerous, and only fruitful in discord and misery, and can only be tolerated in a latitude where marriage is barter and divorces facilitated and encouraged. Neither the present statute nor the one proposed will accomplish the object intended in the protection of the feme covert. She may be as sole and separate as you please, but give her the power to encumber or sell her estate, and so long as she is of the weaker sex and woman, and the husband is a man. he will have and use the power to control the estate waste it. I have known more than one instance which proves my assertion. In one case a married woman had a good estate settled on her by deed intended to protect against an improvident husband; but she had the power to sell and encumber. At the instance of the husband the wife encumbered the property, a valuable and handsome home, and all to raise money, which was obtained and invested in the tobacco trade. The consequence was that the money was lost, and the " sole and separate estate," embracing the home. was sold and lost to the family. I cannot conceive that such results can be prevented so long as the woman has power to dispose of or encumber her estate. Such a law can only breed domestic broils and connubial discord.

I protest against it as the most alarm-

ing and dangerous violation of the most

sacred and fundamental laws of God

and the only security for the elevation

and purity of woman. The present

Virginia statute is only an imitation of

similar enactments in the northern

An alarming commentary on such

laws is found in the practical looseness of the marriage relation and the common, every-day resort to divorces, so frequent in these States. North Carolina adopted a similar law for married women, and her judicial calendar pre-sents an instance of the beauties of the system in a case decided in 1878 by the plaintiff and husband defendant in an action of ejectment brought to eject the latter from lands, including the home, held as the separate estate of the wife and judgment was rendered, upon appeal, for the plaintiff. Vide Manning vs. Manning, 79 N. C., 293; and also reported in 28th Vol. Am. Reports. A lovel and alarming precedent, and a blot upon the civilization of the age. Under this law the sheriff may go with a writ of possession, tear the husband from the harassing embraces of the wife, and land him, bag and baggage, vorce at common law; harsh, violent, and not tempered with the milder proceedings of divorce in a court of equity. No such case, so far as we know, has occurred in Virginia, but it is not unreasonable to expect some stalwart woman, under the teachings and protection of the " Married-Woman's Act. may defy decency, and assert her " sole and separate rights." and out-Herod Anna Dickinson, Mrs. Woodhull, and others in the bold assertion of woman's rights. I assume that there is no true and safe basis for social elevation and happiness other than that which preserves and protects woman in her proper sphere, as the most potent, gentle, and ssential to society. In no other sphere can she be a true woman, capable of exerting her gentle and refining influence upon man, and filling the elevated and noble position assigned her by Providence. This cannot be accomplished, but in its results the richest gift of Heaven to man will be prostftuted and marred by such legislation as is proposed. The result of such dethronement of woman from her high position will be to render man more rude and unmanageable, to destroy the beauty and power of woman, and may lead to the conditions of barbarous nations, which assign her to drudgery and labor, and men to brutality and self-indulgence. It is said that history repeats itself, and such has been the condition of society and is now in heathen lands. I do, therefore, object and protest against such statutes as the present or that proposed, and appeal to our law-makers to consider the consequences and boldly refuse to follow the demoralizing remedies of expediency adopted by the reckless legislation of other States, especially when the fruits are so manifest and prolific in poisoning the fountains of social virtue and hap-

There is no necessity for such laws. and although there may be individual cases of hardship, yet the settled powers of a court of chancery to make settlements in proper cases on the wife, and the right of grantors in deeds to impose restrictions and guard the settlements of estate, are all that the general interests of society require.

But if such a law is to exist upon the statute-book of Virginia, I would suggest as a fitting amendment that it be enacted that the woman, along with other " sole and separate estate," be entitled to the boots and breeches of the husband, and hold them as heir looms, to descend to the oldest daugh ter in succession.

WILLIAM M. TREDWAY. Chatham, Va.

RICHMOND, January 7, 1886.

To the Editor of the Dispatch :

Solely for the purpose of increasing knowledge, if possible—not at all for the sake of controversy—I venture to cal topic touched upon in last Sunday's

You say that as I do not know of single writer of English who does not habitually use the word "till" in a way that offends my taste, I seem to answer my own question. Of course, it does not necessarily follow that a practice is justifiable merely because it habitual with authorities who are better than you do that many of the very best writers of English habitally faultily omit the words other, even. and else—one, two, or all of them—in certain connections; that, for instance, the learned and devoutly-

covet thy neighbor's house nor anything that is his," instead of Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's

house \* \* \* nor anything else that is his"; that to attempt to justify the existing reading of that Commandment would be virtually to rule that it is permissible in rhetorical enumeration to make the meaning of the last member of a series nullify the meaning of all the preceding members; that the reading cannot be justified by the plea of literal translation, because the translators frequently supplied needed words, and even resorted to paraphrasing, in order to make sense of the English translation; and that the omission of the word else is due simply to a lack of knowledge of the sciences of English grammar and rhetoric, which had not been fully thought out and written out before the time of the translators. and were not fully thought out by the translators themselves for themselves. Plainly, the Tenth Commandment

contains " an error of omission; and I am of the opinion that Acts, xxiii., 11, which you cite as exemplifying the correct use of "till," just as plainly contains an error of commission in the incorrect use of " till," and that a discussion of the last clause of that verse will throw light on the subject under consideration.

The Jews said, according to Acts xxiii., 11, that "they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul." If they would neither eat nor drink they would certainly fast. Let us, then, substitute "fast" for "neither eat nor drink!'-thus : "They would fast till they had killed Paul." means, as I understand it, that they would fast during every moment of time between the moment of binding themselves and the moment of killing Paul. The clause so written is perspicuous. Now insert "not" between they would" and "fast," thus: They would not fast till they had killed Paul." Does not this admit of expansion into " they would not fast during every moment of time between the moment of binding themselves and the moment of killing Paul?" I think it does, and that this expansion is unperspicuous; for in saying they would not fast during every moment of a period of time, they would express, not a resolve not to fast at all during that period.

but a resolve not to fast during the

entire period. If, however, we substi-

tute "before" for "till" in the nega-

tive clause-thus: "They would not

fast before they had killed Paul"-

then this reading becomes, like the positive one, perspicuous.

Possibly this attempted simplificaion of the construction of the clause may make it plain that in saying "they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul," the Jews expressed not an intention of fasting during the whole of the period between the time of binding themselves and the time of killing Paul-although they unquestionably meant to express that intention-but simply an intention of not being uninterruptedly engaged in eatthat period. The substitution of "before " for "till " makes their real intention evident: "They would neither cat nor drink before they had killed

That "before" and "until" are not indifferently exchangeable the one for and rainfall of the United States have the other even in sentences like the outch the treatment of a simple sentence will abundantly show. Suppose the sentence "I expect to go to New Vork before Christmas, but shall not remain there until Christmas," rewritten "I expect to go to New York astounding rate of 25,000,000 square before Christmas, but shall not remain miles annually (extract in a recent Dis-

unnecessary. note sentence." In saving could not be protested until Saturday you convey not the idea that the note could not be protested at any moment during business-hours," of course. being understood) of a specified period of time, but merely the idea that the act of protesting the note could not last during every moment (of businesshours) of that period. You do not express a negation of the positive statement, "The note could be protested before Saturday "; you do express, though, a gratuitous, irrelevant negation of a palpable improbability. fine, you neither explicitly assert, nor do you in any way intimate, that the note could not be protested before Saturday.

The construction of the sentence, The note could not be protested until Saturday." is, strictly considered, grammatically correct, because the various parts of speech in it occur in proper form in proper order; but it is thetorically incorrect, because it does not convey the idea intended to be conveyed. Very respecfully,

GRAMMATICASTER.

1. We know that good writers often write bad English. 2. "G" admits that the sentence under discussion is grammatically correct; so we might drop the subject, especially as his argument is intended to prove, so it seems to us, that the word until " ought not to have both of the meanings which it undoubtedly hasthat is, according to the custom of the best writers and speakers-but only one of these meanings. The only answer we need make, or can make, to that argument is to say that we cannot change the fact. "Ravel" and "unravel " are two words that have one meaning. "Cleave" is a word that has two meanings directly opposed the one to the other. "Cleave" means to divide, and also to stick together-to separate from and also to adhere to. So "until " means "until after," and also "up to the time," as "I will not pay you the money until after you hand me the receipt," and also, "I will keep the money until you hand me the receipt."

To the Editor of the Dispatch: I see from your columns that Mr. Heaton has offered a resolution in the Senate having for its object the reduc-tion of the salaries of county and city pose of raising money to pay school cants for these positions and that the State pays them \$40,000.

Undoubtedly the trustees ought to be paid for their work; but are the reasons given sufficient to justify the curtailment of the superintendents' salaries for this purpose? The State pays her legislators more than \$50,000 for ninety days' work, and there are many applicants for these positions. She pays her county judges something like this sum for twelve days' work, and so on, and there are many applicants for these offices. Why not, th make them bear a part of the burden in furnishing the money to pay the trustees? Does any one suppose

careful translators of the King James
Bible made arrant nonsense, regular
jargon, of the Tenth Commandment by
writing it in English "Thou shalt not
covet thy neighbor's house " " would state briefly that one who has charge of a moderately-sized county, and who attends faithfully to his business, has not a single day that he can certainly call his own. He who doubts this statement can easily be convinced of its truth by a study of the school laws, the regulations of the Board of Education, and the report of the Super-intendent of Public Instruction. But should the inquirer not have time for all this, let him take up the above-mentfoned report and open it at page 39 and peruse that and the two following He will thereby gain some little insight into the amount of work done and the amount of money spent in incidental expenses out of his munificent salary, though the table does not tell half the tale. A superintendent should be a first-class man, possessing a good education, fine administrative talents, and general business qualifications; and such men cannot be engaged for salaries less than they could command in other callings. Reduce the salaries. and, as a necessary consequence, the office will have to be filled by inferior men. I do not think the legislators, judges, and other officers overpaid, but I am willing to leave it to the decision of any unprejudiced, well-informed man as to whether they are not better paid for the work required of them than the superintendents. If, then, the money for the payment of the trustees can be gotten in no other way than by reduction of salaries, then let us have a horizontal

> on any one particular class. FAIR PLAY. CONVICT LABOR.

Scientific and Moral Reason Why the Government Should Make Alaska a Pena Colony. RICHMOND, VA., Jan. 14, 1886.

To the Editor of the Dispatch : In former letters I endeavored to give some practical and financial reasons why convicts should be colonized in Alaska, instead of being located, as they now are, in the centres of population, where their activity in the various trades has reduced the working classes to a condition of servitude not unlike that, in many respects, that existed

prior to 1865, and located also where even their presence is a hindrance to morality. I shall now attempt to give a scientific reason why convict labor-this disturbing element, or barnacle as it were. of our civilization-should be exiled t Alaska, and thus relieve the communities in which they are located of their competing labor and contaminating presence and influence, and at the same time be made to subserve a scientifiend-by possibly producing a climatic effect on the United States. To illustrate my subject it is necessary to re peat what I have written in a former letter, that Alaska "is a vast tract o

uninhabited land, facing on the one sid-

the Behring sea and on the other ex-

tending far into the mystic arctic cir-

cle. It has large rivers flowing through it, and it is thought to have fully one sixth of the area of the United States, much of it covered with a magnificent coni ferous forest," and this latter fact brings me to my subjects-that of for estry and its effect upon climate. Scientists are agreed that the temperature undergone, and are still undergoing, a discussed in last Sunday's Dis- rapid and wonderful change, and that the cause of this change is due, in a great measure, to the wasteful and cruel hand of our people in the destruction of our once majestic forests—a most direful destriction, that is proceeding at the there before Christmas." Comment is unnecessary. A similar line of reasoning applies to topography of our continent, and is and S. H. Letcher. cannot explain in popular style in so short a letter as I propose this to be Therefore I rest my unqualified state ments on the accepted opinion of scientists by the public that the depletion of forests affects temperature and rainfall. So convinced is the public of this theory of the scientists that State Legislatures and the Congress of the United States are legislating on the subject and enacting laws for the preservation of forests. Now, why cannot this climatic effect he remedied by sparing our home forests, and utilizing in their stead the forests of this northern coun try, whose only use seems to be to lash the northern atmosphere into cold waves and blizzards that sweep with destructive force over the country periodically. Why not transfer convict there, and let him develop these now useless forests of that un known land; by which development a profitable business might be built, our climate changed, and the rainfall in creased throughout the United States by putting an end to the depletion of home forests. Outside of this scientific consideration of the question there is also a moral view to be take

> surroundings, the loneliness quiet of the region, could be conducive to but contemplation, and religious life. The cold shadows of the North always promote sweetly pensive and moral natures, while the burning sunlight of southern climes develop the evil natures of man. This is strikingly illustrated in the docile and patient Esquimaux child of the North and the fierce and crue Comonche Indian of the South, each of whose natures are the reflex and products of the climates under which they have been born and reared. Paradoxi

of this colonization scheme. By his

removal hither the convict's moral per-

ceptions would be improved. The ten-

dencies of northern climates is "to

modify and subdue the most stub-

born

natures." The grand and

question. Free Books-The Tariff. To the Editor of the Dispatch :

cal as my views appear. I think they

have a bearing on the convict-labor

I am getting stirred up on the subject of free books for free schools and am glad to see that the people are taking a lively interest in the You state in a late editorial that the scheme, if carried out, will inevitably either diminish the efficiency of the present free-school system or necessitate an increase of taxation. If you are right in this view of the matter, and I am satisfied you are, then the idea of trustees, and the only reasons he as- free books for free schools should be signs are that there are many appli- abandoned at once. The people are not in the temper to submit to higher taxes. and woe to the party that undertakes to impose them. Verbum sat sapientibusa word to our legislative Solons ought

to be sufficient.

But, independently of the two objections made by you to this free-book scheme, and which, it seems to me should be conclusive of the question, ask of the advocates of the project whether there is any foundation in reason or justice upon which it can rest? Let us examine it a little :

There are thousands of persons, both in furnishing the money to pay the trustees? Does any one suppose that a superintendent can live on less or that his duties are lighter than those of a legislator or a judge? There seems to be a great it right, I respectfully ask, that they men and women, who have borne the

should be taxed to sil in purchasing books for children whose parents or guardians are not only able, but, as far as I know, are also willing to purchase these books? I have yet to hear a man who is able to purchase books for his children complain that it was a hardship that he should be required to do so. If there are such persons, all I have to say is that they have no right

to complain and that their complaints should be disregarded. Every man and woman in the Comnonwealth who has anything to tax is now taxed to support the free schools. They are taxed to build the schoolhouses, to pay the teachers and superintendents, and to defray all other expenses incident to the system. They are also taxed to purchase books for indigent children-children whose parents or guardians are too poor to p chase books for them. This is all right, and just here the line should be drawn. Not a dollar should be raised, in my judgment, by a general tax on the people levied for the purpose of purchasing pooks for the children of persons who are not only able to purchase them themselves, but who, as far as I have ever heard, do not object to doing so. The pledge on this subject in Democratic platform should never have

improvidently made, and the sooner it s ignored the better. It strikes me that there is about as much sense in Mr. Morrison's scheme for a horizontal reduction of the present tariff as there would be in cutting off a calf's tail that he might thereby the better protect himself against flies in hot weather. There is neither rhyme reduction, and it will not bear so hard nor reason in the proposition. It is manifestly an idiosyncrasy, which the sooner Mr. Morrison divests himself of

been put there. It was unwisely and

the better for his reputation as a states-As stated in a former article, I don't pretend to understand the tariff, but hink I know enough about it to be able to state with confidence that under the present tariff the duties on many articles are too high, on others probably about what they should be, and on others still probably less than they should be. Yet Mr. Morrison, in utter disregard of this palpable inequality. omes along with his jack-knife and makes his horizontal cut, by which he proposes to reduce the present rate of luties just 20 per cent. all around. The people want no such bob-tail tariff as

Now, if Mr. Morrison can prove what I think is utterly beyond his lower, or that of any other man) that all the dutiable articles under the preent tariff are taxed exactly 20 per cent. higher than they should be then his horizontal scheme is right. Otherwise t is radically wrong, and should not be countenanced for a moment. This cheme, to which the papers say Mr. Morrison still adheres, is identical with the one that was so inopportunely inroduced by him into the last Congress, and which was so signally defeated by that body. If we are to have a revision if the tariff by the present Congress and such revision seems to be demanded by the sentiment of the country). I ope it will be made in such manner as hat it will be sustained by reason. stice, and common sense.

THOMAS WOOD. LEXINGTON.

Election of Bunk Officers-Salaries of Coun-15 Officers-Depot Agent-Deaths-Jack sen-Memorial Association-Skating and

'errespondence of the Richmond Dispatch. JANUARY 16, 1885. The following officers for the Bank of exington have been elected for this ear: President: A. L. Nelson; Cashier, C. M. Figgatt, Directors : A. L. Nelson, F. H. Smith, J. J. White, H. H. Myers, C. M. Dold, W. C. Stuart, T. M. Wade, R. H. Sellers,

The Board of Supervisors have fixed the salaries of the county officers as follows: Commonwealth's attorney, \$500; sheriff, \$400; jailer, \$200; clerk of County Court, \$250; clerk of Board of Supervisors, \$30; superintendent of the poor. \$320. The amount of \$30 was allowed the clerk of the Circuit Court for stationery, and \$40 was alowed the clerk of the County Court for

Mr. T. L. Partlow, until recently asistant (Baltimore and Ohio) depot agent n Harrisonburg, has been transferred y promotion to this place, where he assumes the duties as agent at the junc leghany railroad.

Mr. J. G. Swartz, at one time assistant professor at the Virginia Military nstitute, has removed to Fredericks

Mrs. Sherrard, who has just died in Bath county, was a sister of Dr. J. H. ameron, Mrs. Thomas S. White, Mrs. Dr. W. S. White, and Mrs. A. W. Harman, Jr., all of this town and county. The death of this estimable lady has cast a gloom over a wide circle of rela-

tives and friends in this section. Frank Cameron, son of Dr. J. H. Cameron, died at his father's residence, in this place, on Wednesday, aged nine teen years, and was buried on yesterlay from the Presbyterian church. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. T. L. Preston and Rev. Dr. J. B. Taylor. They were attended by a large concourse of citizens and the corps of the Virginia Military Institute in full dress and with side-arms. This amiable and popular young man was formerly a calet, but ever a year ago was compelled to leave the Institute on account of fail-

ing health. The ladies of the Jackson Memorial Association have gone energetically to work. Quite a number of sub-committees have been appointed to arrange for the forthcoming bazaar, and many cirout. Mr. W. W. Corcoran has pro-mised \$1,000 in aid of the monument

The jury in the Boogher cutting case, having failed to agree, has been discharged, and the case is continued. Boogher has given bail in the sum of \$1,000. The jury in the case of the Commonwealth vs. Hinton rendered a verdict sentencing the prisoner to two years and ten months in the peniten-

There has been fine skating on the river, and students and cadets, as well as the young people of the town, have availed themselves of the opportunity for having a good time. been a great deal of sleigh-riding, and the getters of ice have been busy. abundance of excellent ice has been secured.

our town engineer, has gone to Washngton city, having been appointed clerk of the House Judiciary Committee. A colored man, Edward Doubt,

charged with an attempt to poison a colored woman, the wife of Lewis Hughes, has had a preliminary examnation before Justice Baker, and has been sent on to the grand jury for in-dictment. Bail was refused and Doubt Z.

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Baltimore, Md.

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"STEPNIAK" IN LONDON.

A VISIT TO HIS LODGINGS.

Interesting Chat - What He Had to Say to a Correspondent -His Work and Appear In one of the dingiest squares in the West Central district of London lives "Steppiak." the famous Russian writer and revolutionist. In a dingy dwelling next to a dingy church-a dwelling which well represents the average lodg-ing-house of this region—the first floor

age is set apart as the study of the latter-day apostle of freedom who has mysteriously masqueraded through Europe. Books, papers, pamphlets, and magazines in half a dozen languages comprise the chief furniture of the apartment, and at a corner-deak, toiling over the manuscript of his forthcoming volume, sits the man whom the myrmidons of the White Czar long to immure in the subterranean dungeons of the Fortress of Peter and Paul. There is nothing about Stepniak to suggest the conspirator or political plotter; nothing that smacks of dynamite or terrorism, or that reminds you of the pyramidal hats and black cloaks of the vocal villains in "La Fille de Madame Angot." Stepniak is an educated gentleman, and one is not surprised to find that in appearance he is a typical bushy-haired and bearded, broad-faced and flat-nosed Russian; or that, like all of his instructed countrymen, he shares the natural linguistic gift, expressing himself in English, French, German, Italian, Latin, Greek, and his own strange tongue with equal ease. Indeed, he is the last man in the world whom one would take for an upsetter

He is genial, even jovial, in manner. aud his high voice and near sight compel one to wonder how in a land where every inhabitant is watched by the police as the mouse is watched by the cat this outlawed man has worked with safety for so many years, has eluded identification, and how, even new, he passes when he chooses unharmed through the country, where a price is set upon his head. The conclusion is natural that if the Russian police are clever "Stepniak to them in this respect, is equal and that disguises are no loss potent in real life than they are in romance or the drama. But the chief reason why the American or the average European would not take "Stepniak" to be a Nihilist is that outside of Russia the general idea regarding Nihilists and lihilism is entirely at fault, and that the members of the order are wrongly classed in the category of the O'Donovan Rossas and Herr Mosts of cotempo-

"Stepniak" is an admirable repre-

sentative of what are perversely called the " Nihilists." He is a broad-minded man, thoroughly in earnest, and wholly devoted to his cause. Though he looks older he has not seen more than thirtyour years, and fully half of that period has been devoted to the cause of Rus sian liberty. Who he is and what he -that is to say, his real name and family history-will remain long, perhaps forever, unknown. To the world and to his own associates he is "Step-It is a common thing for members of his society to sink their identity under some assumed name and to live and die with it. "The Bird," so called from his peculiar voice, was a compositor on the secret press in St. Peters-burgh. For two years he lived in the printing-office, never going outside the little room in which he lived and worked. This self-abnegation was necessary to the cause. His co-workers knew nothing of him save that he came to them from a distant town with credendials from the local organization. His faithful but self-imposed confinement caused his death, and for lack of any other name he was buried as he had lived, under the name of "The Bird."

Such instances are frequent among the "Stepniak," like all members of the order, refuses to talk of his own history or of his own share in the active secrecy is the only safeguard. But I have reason to believe that he is a member of the lesser nobility of " Little Russia." and that one of his reasons for concealing his identity is to spare his family the persecutions of the Czar. But he is anxious to educate American opinion on the subject of Russia, and in a twelvementh he hopes to visit the States and lecture, though he shrinks from the task of addressing an audi ence, oratory being unknown in Russia, where the right of public speaking is denied. For the present he is living in retirement and working upon his books, and though he is in free England he thinks it best to keep his address as

much of a secret as possible.

He works in a study bestrewn with every adjunct of the writing craft, for Stepniak " has been a professional ournalist. It is a chill, drizzly morning, with the fog coming down as it can come down only in London, and "Stepniak " sits by a bright open fire, which is doing its best to add to the dismal pall of smoke that covers the metropolis in the winter time. As he talks his eyes glisten, his whole frame becomes animated, and from time to time he will rise from his chair and pace the floor with a firm, heavy tread and deter-mined mien. He is thoroughly in earnest, as you can see by his aspect. Indeed, earnestness is his chief charac teristic, as it must be with a man who has sacrified every worldly prospect in a long struggle with the dynasty of the

" It is difficult," he says, " for the people of Western Europe, and it is nore difficult still for the people that great West, America, to realize the condition of things in Russia, for the land of the Czar is like no other country. Everything in Russia is original, and everything that is original in Russia is an anomaly. With us freedom is but the name of an unknown state, and government only another word for plunder, corruption, and nnparalleled tyranny. You wonder that the Russian have submitted so long They could do nothing else. And, be sides, my countrymen are, above all others, a patient race. Indeed, one may ask if their patience has not ceased to be a virtue and become a fault. The Russian people may be divided into two classes-the oppressors and the oppressed. Everyone who is not with the Government is against it, and the Government is only a gigantic system of bureaucracy which exists by robbery. outrage, and every other form of ram-pant despotism. It is a system of un-bridled officialism. From first to last, from the highest to the lowest, the officials are tyrannical and corrupt, with power almost autocratic, seeking and holding their positions merely for the sake of plunder, and responsible only to their superiors, who wink at their mis-doings because they receive the larger share of spoils. Why do not the peo-ple rise? How is it possible for the

people to rise in a country where the right of assemblage is forbidden; where the press is gagged; where the priests are benchmen of the court; where the

and the universities are under martial

while the most villainous murderer is imprisoned for only fifteen years at most; where a child of ten can be artogether without the interference of the police? Under this condition of things it has been impossible for the people to we suffer that makes it so, rise, for it has been impossible for them our only means of revolt. to meet and plan a rising. They are alloted to the use of the author of bound hand and foot. In Russia no "Undergro und Russia" and what was man knows what a day or an hour may evidently a drawing-room in a palmier bring forth for him. At any moment he may be arrested for complicity in a political plot and sent to the gallows o Siberia without a trial. An anony mous letter to the police, the denuncia tion of an enemy, the possession of forbidden book-say one of Huxley's or Herbert Spencer's-is sufficient to

deprive a man of life or such liberty as

"When the late Czar Alexander

emancipated the serfs he received the

Russian may be said to possess.

thought to be a gracious act, worthy of an enlightened age. Russia hailed it as the dawn of a new era. But what has been the result? Millions of people have been emancipated from slavery to a so-called freedom which has burdened them with responsibilities they are not able to bear, and for the non-fulfilment of which they are afflicted with punishments unknown to slavery itself. Russia is a peasant state. The inhabitants of all the cities and towns make only 10 per cent. of the population, and one half of the towns are agricultural. And our peasants are our tax-payers. They. and not the wealthy folk, supply the revenue of the State, and they are taxed far beyond reason and justice. The taxes are so imposed that they fall due just before harvest time, when the peocash. At the best of times they have barely enough to live on after they have paid the Government's demand, how much worse, then, must it be when they are asked to pay their taxes at just that season of the year when they have no money? You would think that it would only be ra-tional on the part of the Government to postpone its day of collection until the harvests have been gathered and sold. But the Russian Gov. ernment does nothing that is rational. Year after year efforts have been made to so postpone the date when the taxes fall due. But to no avail. For then the officials would be bereft of an excuse for plundering the peasants and appropriating their crops in the name the law. And understand that in Russia everything is done by the officials as they think best, or rather, as they find the best chances for plunder. At one time banks were started to assist the peasants, so that they could lay up money through the year to meet the taxes as they became due; but, just as these institutions met with favor from the men they were designed to with savings, a decree was issuedwhich is only another way of saying it was carried out-appointing a Government official at the head of each bank, and the officials at once appropriated the funds. In Russia there is no public opin-

nine tenths of the population, are dense-ly ignorant, and the educated classes fler ceaseless persecution unless they nroll, themselves prominently on the Sovernment side. What are called the Nihilists' are chiefly the educated peole, for there can be no harmony between despotism and enlightenment. The educated classes have taken up persecuted beyond the power of alien people to believe. The authorities recognize the might of education and the fact that its spread is dangerous to the existing order of things. For this and nothing is taught but what is approved by the Ministers of the Czar. ruin the peasants materially and the educated classes morally. To thinking Russians and to our ambitious youth life is but a dreay span of years, without hope, without any of those incentives for the future which men in other countries enjoy. Already one generation of noble youth has been swept away by gallows or by exile. The severest tortures are brought to bear upon political prisoners, tortures that would have een a disgrace even to the dark ages. The innocent suffer with the guilty, if a man can be called guilty whose deed But the authorities know no such thing as innocence. If they suspect a man, even without cause, he is doomed, and no earthly power can save him. The Government is as blind as it is per- few, who accepted the new doctrine, reverse and cruel. Its continued op-pression, which grows worse year by year, is goading the people to despera-tion. The flower of Russian man-terious that the retired to Bruges, where they continued to keep their vows. The lands of the Char-terhouse thus passed into secular occuhood, the flower of Russian intellect, is pation, and the buildings underwent being wiped out by a hand we are pow- great alterations. Sir Edward North. erless to stay. Against this barbarism the first occupant, pulled down the They call us 'Nihilists,' and seek to impress the world that we are the friends and brothers of those despicable fanatics-of whom you have some in trines of a so-called 'socialism' and seek to overturn the fundamental principles of civilized life. It is false! We have no connection and no sympathy, with these demagogues. Our is for freedom, constitutional government, and a representative Parliament. Give us these, and the Czar may retain his throne. ganization embraces the best elements of the Russian people, and so much of her intellectual strength, so much of all that is most noble, generous, and intelligent; so much of her vital force as is not buried among the thousands of Siberian exiles. One thing is certain we can never gain our freedom by peaceable methods; we can secure it only by war. If we are not successful in our generation our sons and daughters will carry on the struggle. Posterity will gain what is denied to us. A struggle has begun which will never end until Russia is as free as England.

"My mission in England is to educate public opinion in our support, and I have already met with a success which surpasses my expectations. My books, 'Underground Russia' and 'Russia Under the Czars,' are eagerly read, and I am at present engaged upon two more works, 'The Storm-Cloud and 'The Russian Peasantry,' The The press has met me with press has met me with great kindness, and the London Times has opened its columns to pen, thus creating great in nation in Russian officialdom, where the Times is regarded as the greatest power in England. The lish people have treated me with un-bounded hospitality, and last week a Russian Society 'was formed by some of the leading men and women of London with the object of supporting us in our struggle with an oppression of the extent and nature of which you free Americans can little dream, though the very best book, by a foreign writer,

tioning the Czar is punishable with that I have ever seen on Russia is by that Howard house was to be had be an American; it is Noble's 'Russian

"I welcome, and shall always welcome, any opportunity to inform Americans of the state of affairs in Russia, rested for holding false political opinions; where the sancity of the home is unrecognized by the authorities and viousland by them every hour of the day or we 'Nihilists' are patriots—not designed by them every hour of the day or we 'Nihilists' are patriots—not designed by them every hour of the day or we 'Nihilists' are patriots—and that if night; where it is impossible for half a dozen people to enter or leave a house our system of secret warfare is thought we suffer that makes it so, and that it is

THE CHARTERHOUSE.

The Charterhouse in London dates

History of an Ancient Charitable Instituti

In commenting upon the proposed depolition of the Charterhouse, the Lon-

don Times says :

from the ravages of the "black death," in the fourteenth century. So dire was the mortality from that fell plague that of London and Sir Walter Manny, one of applause of civilized Europe. It was Edward III.'s captains, together bought a plot of land extending to about side of the green. But the main features the plague died away, and it became been bought. Apparently much of the souse square is believed to have been the ancient burial-ground), and the bishop's successor, Sir Walter Manny, determined that the spot should be devoted to other pious uses. Casting about for a suitable foundation, they selected that of a Carthusian monastery, probably on account of the rigorous discipline of the ple have not yet turned their crops to order and its devotion to solitary contemplation. The necessary charter was enactment that the governors now apobtained and a double convent for twenty-four monks was founded, the buildings being completed about 1370. The bishop died during the progress of the work, and one of the first duties of the newly-established monks was the burial of their surviving founder, Sir Walter Manny, whose bones are be lieved still to rest under the choir of the old church.

cloister of the house. Each cell com-

was furnished with a garden and every

monk to live completely apart from his brethren. The cooking of the monastery was performed by lay brethren, who took round to the monks' cells the portion of food allotted to each. Even the slight intercourse which might arise in this process was guarded against. In the wall of the cloister, by the gate of each cell was a square opening known as a hutch. This opening communicated with a zigzag passage in the wall. The food was pushed half way along this passage from without by the lay brother, and the monk on the other side could then reach it and draw it in. Some of these hutches now bricked up, but with the outline clearly marked by mulating one. The peasants, who form in the refectory, a chamber proba-bly identical with the smaller hall, a time accepting the discipline and embracing the austere and contemplative Washhouse court and apparently intended for the lay brethren and servants

nastery before its dissolution. great cruelty by Henry VIII. Prior s calculated to effect the rescue of his Houghton was hanged for refusing to country and the freedom of his race. acknowledge the king's supremacy. Other brethren shared his fate, and others again were thrown into noisome dens at Newgate, where want and fever our only resource is secret warfare. monks' cells, and formed gardens on their sites. He demolished the chapter-house and built private rooms, and he converted the chapel into a diningroom. His son, Lord North, sold to the Duke of Norfolk in 1565, and in his hands the present Howard house assumed shape. The noble hall in which the poor brethren still dine is the Duke of Norfolk's dining-hall; the apartment over the boys' dining-hall, in which the examinations for the foundation are still held, disfigured by subsequent changes, but still a very fine room, is the Duke of Norfolk's presence chamber; and the staircase by which the room is approached-one of the finest remaining pieces of work-was doubtless design ed and completed under the directions of the Duke. The rest of Howard house stands upon the walls of the little cloister, and thus. by its quadrangle, preserves the outline of the old The possessors of Heward house fell

on evil times. The Duke of Norfolk went from the Charterhouse to the tower, and thence to the block. Duke's eldest son, the Earl of Arundel, was attainted in 1590, and Howard house thus came to the crown. It was, however, granted to another son of the Duke, the Earl of Suffolk, by whom it was sold in 1611 to Thomas Sutton, the founder of the Charterhouse charity. At the time of Sutton's purchase Howof the many noblemen's palaces which London then possessed. It was selected as a resting-place by both Elizabeth and James I. on the occasion of journeys to London, and it was described by Lord Bacon in a letter to the King (apropos of Sutton's foundation) as a "building fit for a prince's habitation," and "as fit for a hospital as a rich embroidered cloak to a beggar." It a mark of the princely nature of Sut-ton's generosity that he selected such an establishment for the home of those

gave the very large price of £13,000 equal probably to ten times the amount at the present day, for the property, and obtained another charter, and eventually an act of Parliament incorporating the charity and confirming in the enjoyment of the estate. Satte spent further large sums of money enlarging the chapel and adapting buildings to the uses of his instituti unworthy of modern civilization, tell and he endowed the charity with ample them that it is the horrible oppression estates in the country for its support. estates in the country for its supp Of Sutton's time are the fine man pieces in the hall and presence cham-ber, as well as much of the carving and other detailed ornament to be found throughout the Charterhouse. Those changes which inevitably come about in buildings used for every-day life have since been made in Howard house from time to time. Of comparatively occupied by the old pensioners, waile, latest of all, the Merchant Tailors' company have erected a large new school-house in place of the smaller it was thought necessary to make ar-rangements for the burial of the dead boys. Unfortunately, too, portions of outside the city walls. The then Bishop | the old Wilderness of the Howards have been let for buildings, and ugly waruhouses rear their forms on the east twenty acres, which was consecrated as of the place as it existed in Sutan extra-mural burying-ground. It is ton's time are still unchanged. It still said that fifty thousand bodies were interred there; but at length, happily, the plague died away, and it became the martyred prior of Henry's time are unnecessary any longer to use the almost intact. The splender of the ground for the purpose for which it had great noble of the Tudor period is still great noble of the Tudor period is still stereotyped in hall and staircase, and ground was still unoccupied. (Charter- the tastes and liberality of the London merchant of the time of the Stuarts are perpetuated in the uses to which the buildings are still put, and in all their arrangements as well as in particular additions and decorations.

The act of Parliament which Sutton obtained for the establishment of his hospital expressly forbade any aliena-tion or demise of any part of the Charterhouse premises. It is to reverse this ply to Parliament.

FREEZING IN FLORIDA. Disastrons Effects of the Norther in the Land

of Flowers - Other Items. pondence of the Richmond Dispatch]

TITUSVILLE, FLA., Jan. 12, 1886. Your correspondent wishes that he could, as of yore, give a roseate hue to his letter from this land of " fruits and The arrangements of a Carthusian flowers," but old Boreas has not only nonastery were adapted to the life of frozen all the fruits and flowers, but solitary prayer and meditation to which its inmates were devoted. The monks' has chilled my own flesh and blood to a degree bordering on the unbearable. cells were arranged around the great Last Thursday, when we left Atlanta, it was bright and sunny, with a tempeprised a sleeping-room and oratory, and rature as agreeable as might be desired, the next morning at 5 o'clock, in the accommodation necessary to enable the midst of rain and darkness, when not far from Waycross, we had a collision, which broke up our sleeper and three passenger coaches, and although the cars were crowded no one was seriously hurt. We were detained several hours, and when we reached Jacksonville the rain was falling in torrents and the wind blowing a gale. It soon cleared away, however, and the wind shifted to the north, from which quarter it has been blowing ever since, and all Florida has a black eye.

DESTRUCTION OF FRUIT.

A large portion of the oranges were ngathered and the last one is frozen, and what is even worse, the trees are ion because there are no means of for- a stone coping, are still to be seen in so damaged that it will certainly take the western wail of the great cloister at one or more years to put them in blos-Charterhouse. The monks only met seming condition. My objective point in chapel, where each had his is 120 miles south of this place, where allotted seat, and on rare days pine-apples and other tropical fruits are the principal production, and albly identical with the smaller hall, used in after years as the dining-room to that effect, I have no doubt but that of the Charterhouse boys. The prior, the freeze has been as destructive there however, had his separate dwelling- as it has been here. Many people in house and hall, where he entertained this country have invested their all in strangers; and ranged round the little fruits and vegetables, and they are, to which the peasant is unable to fight for himself, and for this they are where not only were wayfarers and ocan casional guests received, but pious lay- day morning registered 20 degrees above

> HIGH AND DRY. A new railroad has just been com-

life of the monastery. In the London pleted from Enterprise, on Lake Mon-Charterhouse the chapel stood on the roc, to this place, distance thirty-nine south of the great cloister, and the miles, and usually you take a sailingprior's quarters and little cloister at the vessel or steamer to go down the river southwest corner. Still further to the for any distance. The steamer now west was a considerable space of open | running in connection with the railroad ground, and upon a part of this a new only goes fifty miles below, and if you court adjoining the little cloister was | want to go as far as my destinationbuilt by Prior Houghton in the time of say 120 miles-you have to take a sail-Henry VIII. This court, known as vessel, I took a sail-vessel immediately on the arrival of the train on Monday at noon, and after getting out into the of the monastery, still exists in all es- river some distance sailed up on a sandsentials, and on its outside wall are to bar and stuck, and there she is yet. be seen Prior Houghton's initials. This | waiting for the wind to so change as to was the last addition made to the mo- blow into the river the water it has blown out of it. We were compelled The Charterhouse was treated with to spend one night on the boat, and day we got ashore, and have a comfortable hotel. This almost unprecedented norther has now lasted over four days, and the presumption is that it can't last much longer. It is now much warmer, and by to-morrow I expect to

see it quite warm and pleasant. This is a dry norther, and a few portsmen stopping here have a fine me shooting quail and ducks. Quail are very abundant, and I can safely say that I can see ten thousand ducks at one sight from the wharf. C. M. R.

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